

Maurice Hinchey NEWS

26TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, NEW YORK

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NEWBURGH HOME OWNERSHIP PROGRAM GETS \$120,000 GRANT

WASHINGTON - U.S. Representative Maurice Hinchey (NY-26) today announced that the Federal Home Loan Bank of New York (FHLBNY) has awarded a \$120,000 grant to Rural Opportunities, Inc. for a program to promote first-time homeownership in Newburgh. The Affordable Housing Program funds will be used to help rehabilitate homes that will then be sold to first-time homebuyers.

"Increasing owner occupancy is key to revitalizing neighborhoods," said Hinchey. "When people own their homes they take pride in their property and in their neighborhood. Both the Federal Home Loan Bank of New York and Rural Opportunities have excellent track records in Newburgh and throughout the state and I have great confidence that this program will succeed."

"The Federal Home Loan Bank of New York is delighted to join with HSBC Bank and Rural Opportunities, Inc. to fund the Home Ownership Program in Newburgh to provide 12 families with affordable homes through the Bank's Affordable Housing Program," said Alfred DelliBovi, President of FHLBNY. "AHP was established and sustained by leaders in Congress like Representative Hinchey. Congressman Hinchey has been a strong proponent in Washington for affordable housing and community development. The FHLBNY greatly appreciates his support."

The Home Ownership Program in Newburgh will provide first-time homeownership opportunities for 12 low-income households. Financing sources include the City of Newburgh, HSBC Bank, and the New York State Division of Housing and Community Renewal HOME funds. To be eligible for the program, families must participate in a homeownership education program, which covers credit counseling, budgeting, financial literacy, and all aspects of the home buying process. It is anticipated that many of the homes available for sale will require rehabilitation. The FHLBNY grant will provide a \$10,000 per house subsidy for this purpose.

"We are very excited about the grant," said Karen Mallam, Executive Director of Rural Opportunities, Inc. "This gives us the ability to assist low-income families to become homeowners in the City of Newburgh."